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16 June 1965

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INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

REVIEW OF INSURGENCY PROBLEMS

This publication provides a periodic review of internal security in underdeveloped countries where there is a threat from Communist-supported insurgency.

DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE
Office of Current Intelligence

State Department review completed

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W A R N I N G

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REVIEW OF INSURGENCY PROBLEMS

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OCI No. 0568/65

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Office of Current Intelligence
16 June 1965

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

Review of Insurgency Problems

1. Congo (Leopoldville)

Most of the Congo is relatively quiet, but rebel activity is increasing in the regions west of Lake Tanganyika. On 14 June, a sizable rebel group attacked Uvira, located at the northern tip of the lake at the Burundi border. There are indications that other rebels from the Fizi area may intend to move soon toward Albertville. Lake traffic from Kigoma, Tanzania, has increased and [redacted]

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[redacted] reported unusually large numbers of people near Fizi. Meanwhile, Congo Army units on the western edge of the Fizi region are continuing to advance slowly against sporadic resistance.

Rebel resistance in the northeast has continued to wane following the capture of Buta. Armed patrols now reportedly move without harassment in widely scattered sections. No more hostages have been located, however. Insurgent activity in the northeast now is centered north of Bumba--240 miles downriver from Stanleyville--where marauding rebel bands have burned villages and still block the Bumba-Buta road. (Map)

2. Iraq

The Iraqi Army has recently been more aggressive in its campaign against the rebel Kurds,

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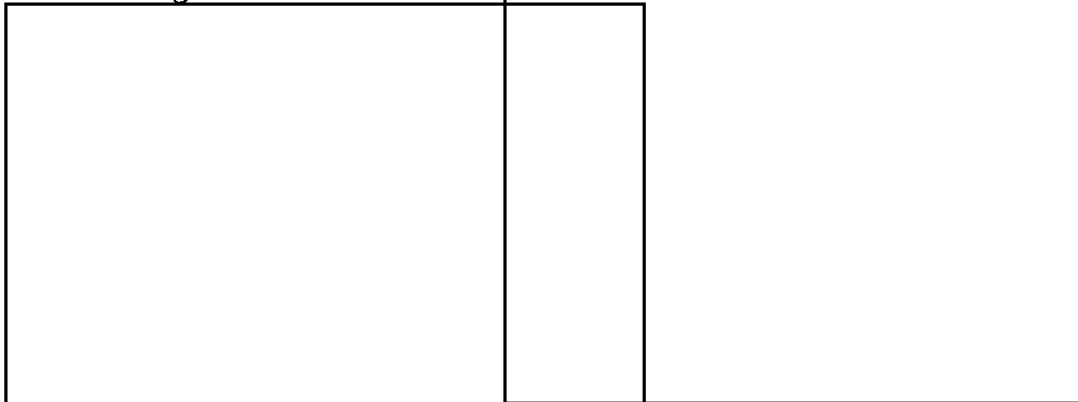
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There is no indication that this campaign will ultimately be more successful than previous drives against the Kurds.

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3. Laos

The military situation continues quiet. In the northwest, government guerrilla troops recaptured a position southwest of Vien Pou Ka lost to the Communists in late May. A reported Communist build-up to the east in the Muong La area may foreshadow a clearing operation against government guerrillas north of Luang Prabang.

In the panhandle, heavy rains have washed out sections of Route 23 rendering the road impassable to vehicular traffic.

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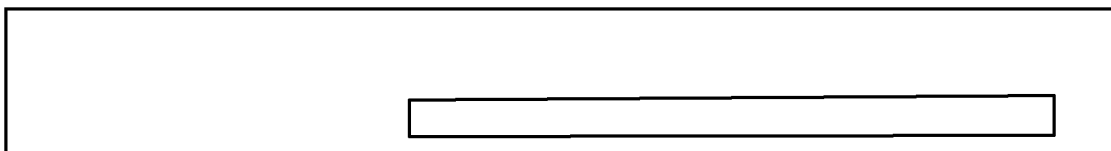
[redacted] a total of 250 PAVN troops walking south on 9 and 14 June.

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[redacted] a battalion of PAVN troops walking south on 5 June. This latter group may represent a redeployment of PAVN troops in the panhandle rather than an additional input from North Vietnam.

On the political front, Peiping on 15 June quoted a Pathet Lao radiobroadcast reserving the right to appeal for "all necessary assistance" from "peace-loving countries" if the US persists in its "aggression." This statement probably was designed to bring Communist propaganda in Laos in line with recent statements on the Indochina situation, rather than to set the stage for such a call.

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5. East Africa

Political conditions have been changing rapidly during the past eight months. In Kenya, moderate elements made headway in curbing the power of pro-Communist Oginga Odinga, and in Uganda Prime Minister Obote veered sharply leftward before internal pressures forced him back on center. The course of both these countries may be affected eventually by the rapid growth of extremist influence in Tanzania.

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In Tanzania radical African and Chinese Communist influence continues to grow. President Nyerere's determination to lead the struggle for the liberation of southern Africa and Tanganyika's union with Zanzibar have accelerated the country's leftward drift. Moderate politicians have gradually been replaced and those few that remain are playing down their Western connections.

The act of union not only failed to eliminate the Zanzibar cancer, but has in many ways facilitated its spread through the mainland government. Nyerere gave the Zanzibaris heavy over-representation in the Tanzanian cabinet, and some have become strong voices in his administration. Together with radically inclined Tanganyikans, they control all the important ministries. Chou En-lai displayed a certain amount of insight last week when he referred to the island as "the nucleus of Tanzania." At the same time the Zanzibaris have been able to resist real integration with Tanganyika. They still run their own affairs and maintain a separate army. Nyerere's frustrating struggle to gain control of the island and its "wild men" has had a disproportionate effect on his conduct of both domestic and foreign policy. In his desire to avoid a direct confrontation with the islanders he has frequently compromised. Each surrender to radical pressure has resulted in a further diminution of his authority and future maneuverability.

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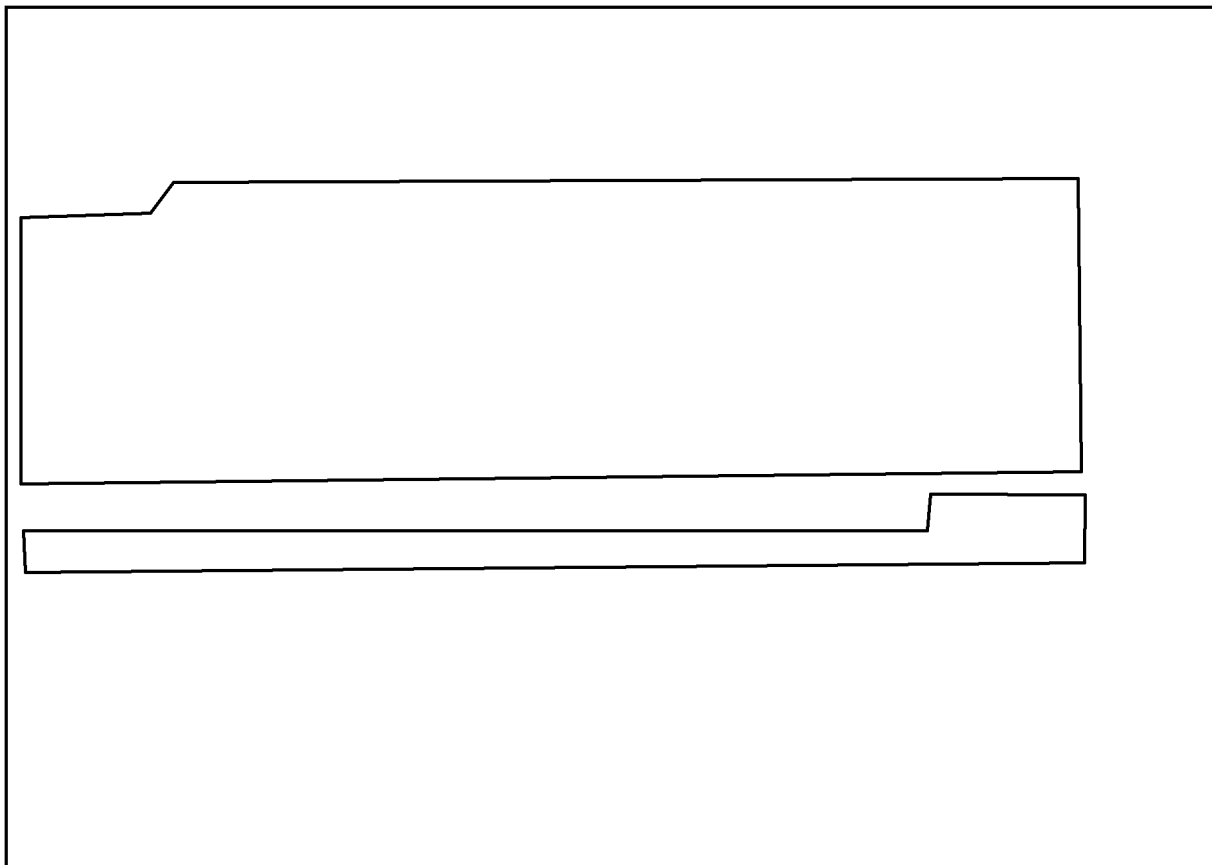
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Tanzania is gradually isolating itself from the rest of East Africa. It announced last week that it would establish its own currency and central bank. It is also considering an embargo on all imports from Kenya and Uganda. Nyerere's pro-Communist ministers Babu and Swai have been exploiting Tanzania's nationalist feelings toward its richer neighbors and they may succeed eventually in breaking all ties with the East African Common Services Organization which binds the three countries. At some point, Nyerere may try to redress the balances in Tanzania in order to attract more foreign investment for his five-year plan. For the moment, however, his course parallels radical African and Communist objectives and is likely to lead to a further erosion of the Western position.

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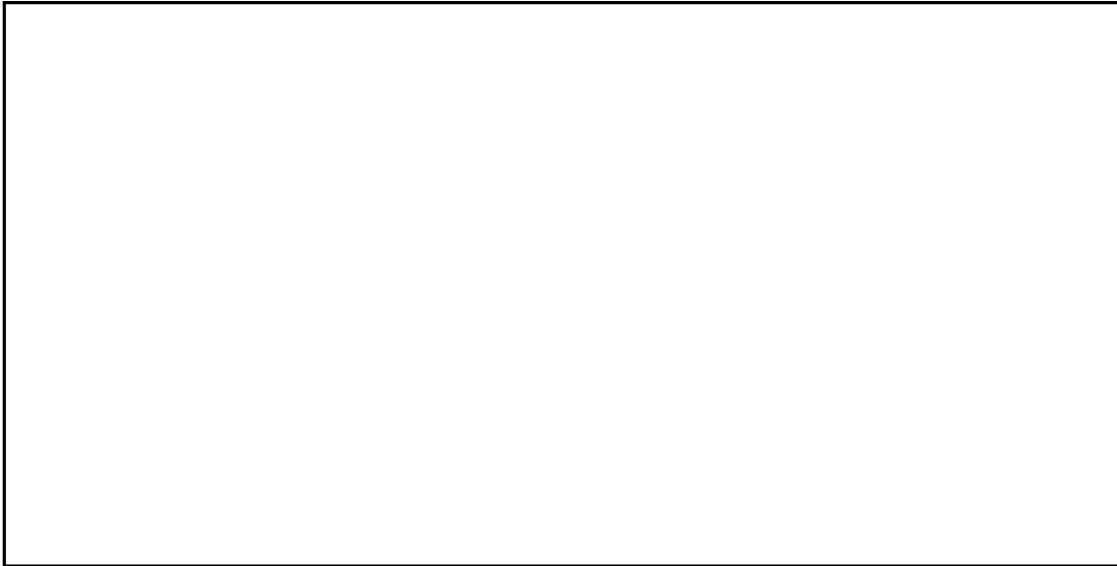
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7. Bolivia

The military occupation of all nationalized mines late last week without resistance has brought at least a temporary respite in the political crisis. Demoralized, faced with overwhelming military force, and shorn of their extremist leadership, the miners reluctantly agreed to the 23 May decree reorganizing the mining industry. With the military phase of the rehabilitation program completed, the junta must now demonstrate to the miners that conditions will improve under the new program. Pacific occupation will be tolerated for a while, but resistance will stiffen and crisis will again threaten if the junta does not provide tangible results to back up its promises.



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11. Colombia

Efrian Gonzalez, legendary bandit charged with more than 200 murders in his long career, was killed by soldiers after a five-hour battle on 9 June. Four soldiers and one policeman were killed and eleven soldiers were wounded in the action, in which the army used rifles and small arms, grenades, machine guns, and, for the first time, new light-weight 40-mm. cannons.

President Valencia delivered the eulogy at the funeral of the soldiers and policeman who were killed. He praised the army and the police and appealed for public support of their "gigantic effort...to bring peace to the people."

On 11 June, according to the press, two lesser bandit chieftains were killed and members of their gangs either killed, captured, or driven into hiding.

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Communists recently have organized "campesino leagues" in the countryside near Barrancabermeja. The peasants in the district are required to make contributions to the leagues, under threats of violence to their persons or their property. The leagues support the Cuban-trained leadership of the Army of National Liberation (ELN) and probably other Communist-directed clandestine activities as well.

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13. Peru

The Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR), a pro-Cuban, pro - Chinese Communist organization, has apparently begun guerrilla activity in remote and rugged east-central Peru.

On 9 June 13 armed men attacked two haciendas (ranches) and a mine, stealing dynamite, clothing, money, food, and other articles. Another group raided a hacienda to the south on 12 June. Although accurate information regarding the raids is not available, the evidence is strong that they were carried out by the MIR as the beginning of its "armed action" stage of revolution.

The MIR has about 1,000 members, at least 150 of whom have received extensive guerrilla training in Cuba, Communist China, and North Korea.

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14. Venezuela

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The Venezuelan press continues to report guerrilla activity in eastern Venezuela. According to these reports 14 guerrillas ambushed a police patrol in that area recently. One guerrilla was killed. Another clash in which two guerrillas were wounded and four others arrested occurred two days later in the same region. The press also reported that guerrillas had kidnaped eight peasant leaders in various zones throughout the country.

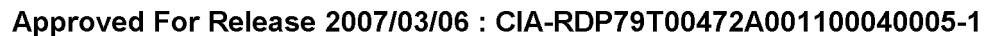
In western Venezuela, near a small town in Lara State, 3 guerrillas were killed and 2 wounded by army troops on 30 May.

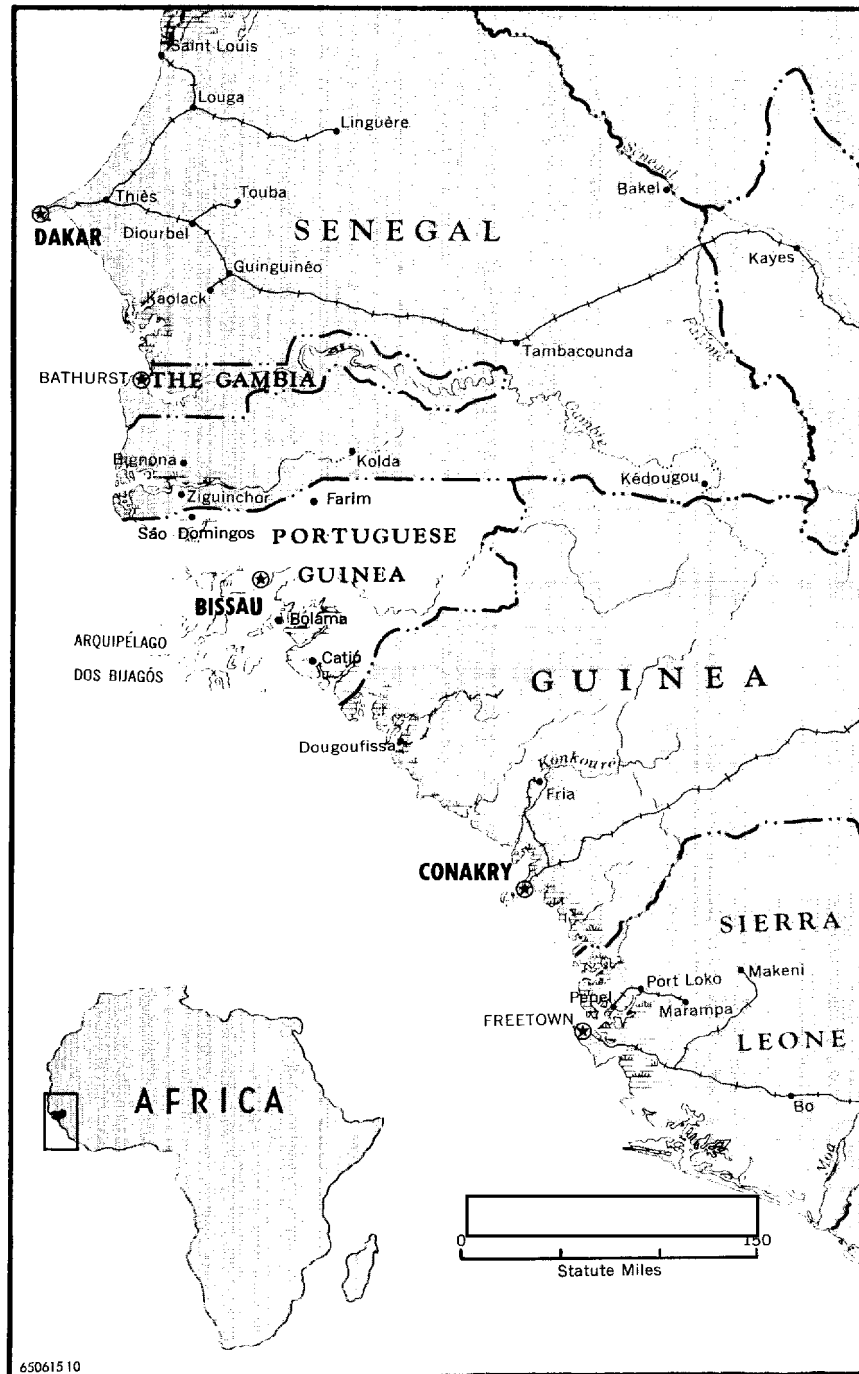
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